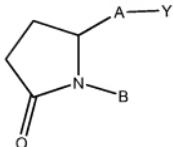


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug, or a metabolite thereof;

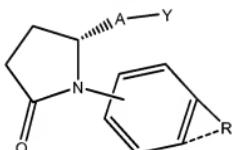
wherein

Y is an organic acid functional group, or an amide or ester thereof comprising up to 12 carbon atoms; or Y is

10 hydroxymethyl or an ether thereof comprising up to 12 carbon atoms; or Y is a tetrazolyl functional group;
A is $-(\text{CH}_2)_o-$, *cis*- $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}-(\text{CH}_2)_o-$, or $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-(\text{CH}_2)_o-$, wherein 1 or 2 carbon atoms may be substituted with S or O; or A is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{-Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_o-$ wherein Ar is interarylene or heterointerarylene, the sum of m and o is from 1 to 4, and wherein one CH_2 may be substituted with S or O; and
B is aryl or heteroaryl.

15 2. The compound of claim 1 wherein B is phenyl.

3. The compound of claim 2 having the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug, or a metabolite thereof;

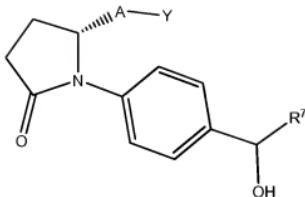
wherein a dashed line indicates the presence or absence of a bond

20 R is hydrocarbyl or hydroxyhydrocarbyl having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms.

4. The compound of claim 1 wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of $\text{CO}_2(\text{R}^2)$, $\text{CON}(\text{R}^2)_2$, $\text{CON}(\text{OR}^2)\text{R}^2$, $\text{CON}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH})$, $\text{CONH}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH})$, CH_2OH , $\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OH})_2$, $\text{CONHSO}_2\text{R}^2$, $\text{SO}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^2)_2$, SO_2NHR^2 , and tetrazolyl-R²; wherein R² is independently H, C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl, or biphenyl.

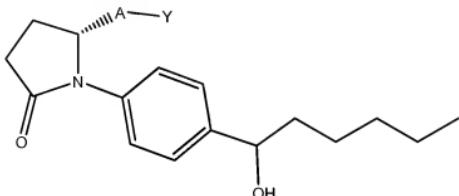
5. The compound of claim 1 wherein A is $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{-Ar}-(\text{CH}_2)_o-$ and Ar is interthienylene.

25 6. The compound of claim 2 having the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug, or a metabolite thereof,
wherein R⁷ is linear alkyl comprising from 3 to 7 carbon atoms.

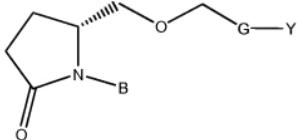
7. The compound of claim 4 having the formula



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8. The compound of claim 5 wherein A is -(CH₂)_n-Ar-(CH₂)₆ and Ar is interthiylene.
9. The compound of claim 2 wherein B is alkylphenyl.
10. The compound of claim 2 wherein B is *p*-*t*-butylphenyl.
11. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of
- 10 5-[(R)-1-(4-*tert*-Butyl-phenyl)-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxy]-pentanoic acid;
- 3-[(R)-1-(4-*tert*-Butyl-phenyl)-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-benzoic acid;
- 5-[(R)-1-(4-*tert*-Butyl-phenyl)-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-furan-2-carboxylic acid;
- 5-[(R)-1-(4-*tert*-Butyl-phenyl)-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-thiophene-2-carboxylic acid;
- 7-[(S)-1-(4-*tert*-Butyl-phenyl)-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-yl]-heptanoic acid;
- 15 5-[(R)-1-[4-(1-Hydroxy-hexyl)-phenyl]-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-furan-2-carboxylic acid;
- 5-[(R)-1-[4-(1-Hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)-phenyl]-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-furan-2-carboxylic acid;
- 5-[(R)-1-[4-(1-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-ethyl)-phenyl]-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-furan-2-carboxylic acid;
- and
- 5-[(R)-1-[4-(1-Hydroxy-hexyl)-phenyl]-5-oxo-pyrrolidin-2-ylmethoxymethyl]-thiophene-2-carboxylic acid.

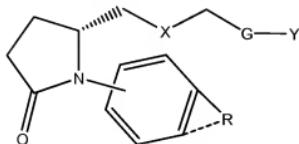
20 12. The compound of claim 1 comprising



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug, or a metabolite thereof;

wherein G is 1,3-teraryl or interheteroaryl, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$.

13. The compound of claim 12 wherein B is phenyl.
14. The compound of claim 13 wherein B is hydroxalkylphenyl.
15. The compound of claim 1 comprising



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug, or a metabolite thereof;

wherein a dashed line indicates the presence or absence of a bond;

R is hydrocarbyl or hydroxyhydrocarbyl having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms;

X is CH_2 , O, or S; and

- 10 G is 1,3-teraryl or interheteroaryl, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_3-$.
- 11 The compound of claim 16 wherein G is interthienyl.
- 12 A compound comprising an N-aryl or N-heteroaryl gamma lactam which is effective at reducing intraocular pressure in a mammal.
- 13 A method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to an eye of a mammal for the treatment of glaucoma or ocular hypertension.
- 14 A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 wherein said composition is ophthalmically acceptable.
- 15 Use of a compound of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of glaucoma or ocular hypertension.

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